Thottakattukara bank of the Periyar river.

211, *MR. P. O. THOMAS: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have done anything to prevent the flood-danger to the Thottakattukara bank of the Periyar river in the Alwaye Municipality;

(b) whether the Chief Engineer has personally inspected that spot;

(c) what measures he has suggested to remedy the evil; and

(d) the nature of the co-operation offered by the Alwaye Municipality in the matter?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: *(a)* Yes. Planting of Nanal or Dharba grass widely practised for the retention of scoured river margins in many places is being tried from 1120 onwards.

(b) Yes.

(c) Grass planting and brushwood edging was suggested.

(d) The Municipality originally agreed to contribute a share of the cost of providing a protection wall and bathing ghat but subsequently expressed their unwillingness to contribute anything for the trial works now being carried out.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know whether the Chief Engineer has got any report about the trial of this work in 1120?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: I actually saw it.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know whether the Alwaye Municipal Commissioner was against this?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: Yes. It was unfortunately a failure. The Executive Engineer has been severely warned. We have spent about Rs. 70,000. My experience elsewhere has proved successful in this particular scheme. If it is not satisfactory, I have no objection in taking any other step that would be effective.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know whether the damage that could be caused will destroy several buildings in the locality?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: Not likely. I am very carefully watching.

MR. A. P. UDAYABHANU: Will this protection work be extended to other rivers also?

DEWAN BAHADUR L. VENKATAKRISHNAN: That is a general question which is under discussion with the Government.

Dharmapuram-Manakkudy coastal road.

212. *MR. S. THIRAVIAM NADAR (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are taken to construct a coastal road from Dharmapuram to Manakkudy road in Agastisvaram taluk; and

(b) if so, what steps?

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